



## State Water Resources Control Board

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Public Affairs

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### **TECHLAND TESTING ASSESSED PENALTIES OF \$30,000 IN MERCED AND STANISLAUS COUNTIES FOR VIOLATIONS IN TESTING UNDERGROUND GASOLINE STORAGE TANKS**

**SACRAMENTO-** Bruce Hoagland, doing business as Techland Testing, located in Atwater, California, was assessed penalties of \$30,000 for conducting tank monitoring certifications on underground storage tank systems (UST) without proper certifications. In order for an individual to conduct monitoring certifications on petroleum product UST systems, certifications from the UST equipment manufacturers and International Code Council are required. Regular testing of gasoline-containing underground storage tanks is required in order to lessen the possibility of leaks that can contaminate soil and pollute groundwater. Of the \$30,000 in penalties assessed to Techland Testing, \$10,000 is required to be paid immediately, as described below. The remaining \$20,000 will become due only if Techland Testing fails to comply with the UST certification laws in the future.

The case is the result of an investigation and joint enforcement action by the State Water Resources Control Board's Office of Enforcement, the California District Attorneys' Environmental Circuit Prosecutor Project through the Merced and Stanislaus Counties' District Attorney's Offices, Merced County Division of Environmental Health and Stanislaus County Division of Environmental Health. Stipulated Judgments were entered into the Merced and Stanislaus Counties Superior Courts on July 18, 2007 and August 7, 2007, respectively.

The Stipulated Judgments order that the \$10,000 in paid penalties will be allocated as follows: \$5,000 to the State Water Board Cleanup and Abatement Account; \$1,250 to the Merced County Division of Environmental Health, \$1,250 to the Stanislaus County Division of Environmental Health and \$2,500 California District Attorneys Association – Circuit Prosecutor Project.

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